

**From:** [Michelle Mitton](#)  
**To:** [Rhonda Pusnik](#)  
**Subject:** FW: PL20210146 - Applicant's Rationale for New Ag for Council Oct 11, 2022  
**Date:** October 4, 2022 2:56:03 PM

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MICHELLE MITTON, M.SC  
Legislative Officer | Legislative and Intergovernmental Services

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-----Original Message-----

From: Sangeeta Vishwakarma <SVishwakarma@rockyview.ca>  
Sent: October 4, 2022 12:38 PM  
To: Michelle Mitton <MMitton@rockyview.ca>  
Subject: FW: PL20210146 - Applicant's Rationale for New Ag for Council Oct 11, 2022

Hi Michelle,

Please include the letter below from the applicant for Council's consideration.

Could we copy paste this into a Word document?

Thank you,

SANGEETA VISHWAKARMA, BA  
Planner | 403-520-6606  
Planning and Development Services  
ROCKY VIEW COUNTY

-----Original Message-----

From: Terry McGuire Hagel [REDACTED]  
Sent: October 4, 2022 12:09 PM  
To: Sangeeta Vishwakarma <SVishwakarma@rockyview.ca>  
Cc: AAA KEN [REDACTED]  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] - Re designation Hearing October 11,2022

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Good afternoon Sangeeta;

We wrote the following as our own guideline for our presentation to Council next week. We thought it might be of assistance to you and Administration as well, at this point.

Re designation Hearing October 11,2022

Why what we are proposing qualifies as a new or distinct agricultural operation:

When we bought our 40 acre lands in 1997, we arrived with a 9 year old Andalusian breeding stallion and 21 other horses including 16 broodmares.

We needed the entire 40 acres for grazing. We never grew hay nor harvested it.

From 1997 to 2020, we had a business breeding our own and outside mares, raising, selling, training and competing Andalusian horses. Our last breeding stallion died in 2007. He sired 97 foals in his lifetime with us.

The last two sales horses sold in 2021. We have just one broodmare left as the other one died in June 2022. We have an opportunity to breed this last mare next Spring, and sell her next three foals as a custom request.

Other than that mare we have only two other horses now, an aged gelding and a riding gelding.

We no longer need 40 acres for our breeding operation.

We want to redesignate our lands and start a Saskatoon and Haskap berry growing operation on portions of the South 20 acres.

At age 72, this would have to happen with assistance such as in partnership with younger persons and preferably with an experienced berry grower.

Saskatoons:

To that end, in February 2019, we had a consultation at our acreage respecting South 20 acres. Rick and Marsha Gelowitz of Solstice Berry Farm in Mountain View County. They came, assessed our land and spent an afternoon at our place. We wanted to know how suitable were the lands as we know Saskatoons grow wild in the coulee.

Gelowitz's operation is huge, involving producing jams jellies, u-pick and freezing berries.

We see our new agricultural operation as an opportunity to sell our produce to places like theirs.

Haskaps:

Haskaps are a berry which is becoming more widely recognized and sought. Although only recently being grown in Alberta as a commercial prospect, they are very attractive to grow where we are located. They can handle light frost well. We have 20 less days without frost than Eastern Rocky View.

We planted 8 Sakatoon and Haskaps in 2021 and found we have a lot to learn.

We believe that the above makes this berry growing plan a distinct new and distinct agricultural operation from the horse raising.

Thanks Sangeeta,

Terry and Ken